

## REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 9, 2005, Applicant elects, without traverse, to prosecute the invention of Species I, claims 1-14. Applicant agrees with the Examiner that claim 1 is generic to both Species I and Species II. Accordingly, should the Examiner find claim 1 to be allowable, then Applicant respectfully requests rejoinder of dependent claims 15-16.

Moreover, with the above preliminary amendment, Applicant has added new linking claims 29-42. *See MPEP §§ 809 and 809.03.* Applicant submits that the pending claims 1-14 are related to these new linking claims 29-42 as a process (claims 1-14) and apparatus for its practice (new linking claims 29-42). *See MPEP § 806.05(e).* According to the MPEP:

If the apparatus claims include a claim to "means" for practicing the process, the claim is a linking claim and *must be examined with the elected invention.* If it is ultimately allowed, rejoinder is required. See MPEP § 809.04.

MPEP § 806.05(e) (emphasis added). Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that new linking claims 29-42 must be examined together with pending claims 1-14. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests entry and examination of linking claims 29-42.

Furthermore, Applicant notes that claims 17-28 were cancelled in Applicant's previous response dated March 23, 2004. Applicant reserves the right to reintroduce such claims at a later date in one or more divisional applications, or as dependent claims to any one or more of the above linking claims that are found allowable. *See M.P.E.P. § 809.*

*Conclusion*

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 373-6951 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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By their Representatives,

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Date March 8, 2005

By Suneel Arora

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, MS: Amendment, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 8 day of March, 2005.

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